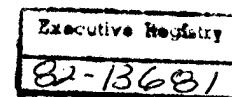


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29 December 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM: Director, Office of External Affairs

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation with Philip Taubman, The New York Times - 29 December 1982

1. At 10:30 a.m. on December 29th, I contacted Philip Taubman at the Pink Beach Hotel in Bermuda and relayed the following information attributable to you:

(a) We cannot afford to let stand unchallenged the charges that we fashion intelligence to fit Administration rhetoric. The charges are absolutely false -- we go to great pains to see that intelligence is just that, intelligence.

"From the Spring of 1980 to the January 1981 statement of recently departed Secretary of State Ed Muskie, the previous Administration in various statements recognized that the insurgents in El Salvador were being supported by Cuba and Nicaragua.

During 1981/82 the Intelligence Community issued a good number of separate National Intelligence Estimates on Central America. Each of these was concurred in by all 12 of the separate components of the American Intelligence Community."

2. Taubman stated he did not know present status of story and whether it was too late to get these remarks in. I urged him to make every effort to do so and reemphasized that you felt quite strongly that these positions be stated.

3. [redacted] of my Office, were parties to the conversation.

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cc: DDCI  
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